

Kachina Dolls

Description:

Children will make a kachina doll from a toilet tissue roll and a table tennis ball.

Materials:

toilet tissue roll, table tennis ball, markers, feathers, glue, safety scissors

Standards: 2, 4, and 6

Concepts: Shape, form, and symbol

Level: Pre K-3



Procedure:

For Native Americans, art and religion are closely related. Kachina dolls made by the Hopi Indians symbolize the spirits of plants, places, animals, and ancestors. The dolls are a few inches to several feet tall. Your child will create a kachina doll using found objects. After looking at a few examples on the Internet, in books, and in *JumpStart Artist*, have your child take markers and draw colorful geometric shapes on a toilet tissue roll. Then, help her glue a table tennis ball to one end of the tissue roll for the doll's head. Finally, have her decorate the ball with markers and glue feathers to the top of the doll's head.

Extension:

Your child can make a Native American headband with the materials used for the kachina doll. Cut a strip of paper 1 inch to 2 inches wide to fit your child's head. Then have her add geometric shapes and feathers to the strip of paper.

Just for Kids:

For centuries the Hopi Indians of the American Southwest have made kachina dolls as symbols of the spirits of plants, places, animals, and ancestors. Today kachina dolls are considered works of art. Many are adorned with feathers, animal skins, and strips of leather. Some are only a few inches tall while others are several feet tall. Today, you are going to make a kachina doll using found objects. How many shapes can you draw on your doll? Can you name the shapes? What can you add to your doll to make it better?

Resources:

Web:

www.kachinasanddolls.com
www.kachinaspiritworld.com

Book:

Cut and Make Kachina Dolls by A. G. Smith

